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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES

TO: Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair  
Representative Jeremy Fischer, House Chair  
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Dennis Damon, Senate Chair  
Representative Leila Percy, House Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

DATE: March 10, 2008

SUBJ: LD 2173 – Governor's change package

The Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources voted (9-0) to approve the Governor's change package to LD 2173. However, while Part YY-1 was not amended in the change package we wish to emphasize that we still support amending Part YY-1 as we provided in our February 15, 2008 letter regarding the Supplemental Budget for FY 2008-2009. Specifically, we recommended that the word "consolidation" in the last line of the first paragraph of Part YY-1 be stricken and replaced with the word 'collaboration.' This change avoids creating a predisposition that the plan to increase efficiencies among natural resource agencies must include the consolidation of certain agency functions. It is not clear to our committee that consolidation of these functions across agencies will necessarily lead to greater efficiencies and savings; therefore, consolidation should not be a directive to those agencies but only one of many options for consideration while developing such a plan.

Thank you for your consideration of our recommendations.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Marine  
Patrick Norton, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Maureen Dawson, Principal Analyst, Office of Fiscal and Program Review  
— Suzanne Roy, Analyst, Office of Fiscal and Program Review